

Issue No 2



June 2022

R E P E R T O I R E

Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group



Madness of King George III

Written by Alan Bennett
Directed by Angela Short

'The Madness of King George III was written in 1991'.

It is a fictionalised biographical study of the latter half of the reign of George III of the United Kingdom, his battle with mental illness, and the inability of his court to handle his condition.

It was adapted for film in 1994 as *'The Madness of King George'*. The play had its premiere on 28 November 1991 at the Lyttelton Theatre of the National Theatre in London.

BOOK NOW at www.adelaiderep.com for:

16 - 18 and 22 - 24 June at 7.30pm

Saturday 25 June, Matinee at 2.00pm

and at 7.30pm

Adult: \$25 / Concession: \$22

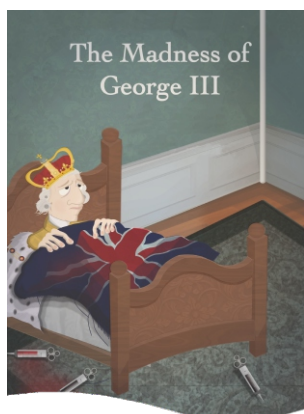
(book online & receive a free program)

Adult: \$28 / Concession: \$24

(book through box office)

The Madness of King George III

Adelaide Repertory Theatre
presents
**'The Madness of King
George III'**,
Written by Alan Bennet
Directed by Angela Short



In the latter part of the reign of King George III King of England his behaviour changes. Gradually at first and easy to brush under the carpet. Then it becomes much less easy to hide.

Initially he was, against his will physically moved to Kew in order to "exercise unobserved and to benefit from the change of air". His

majesty is attended by what was believed to be the best team of doctors.

As he alternates between bouts of confusion, childlike behaviour and violent outbursts of temper his doctors fail with their ineffectual cures of the time.

Meanwhile, Queen Charlotte and Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger attempt to prevent the king's political enemies, led by his eldest son the Prince of Wales, from usurping the throne.

'The Madness of George III' is an historical story which goes full circle. It is witty, energetic and engaging.

Director Angela Short

This is not Angela's first production with The Rep. she directed *'A Woman of no Importance'* by Oscar Wilde as a virtual production during the lockdown times.



Originally from Liverpool, UK, Angela's first stage appearance was as the back end of a horse in a school play.

This production later proved to be the first of many as she has gone on to perform in over thirty productions, including appearing in *Perestroika* with Vanessa Redgrave, playing the healthiest looking prisoner of war ever seen.

While still in the UK she has also played Grusha Vashnadze in Brecht's *'Caucasian Chalk Circle'*, Mrs Johnstone in *'Blood Brothers'* and Judith Bliss in *'Hay Fever'*.

Since arriving in South Australia in 2010, Angela has worked with Therry and Tea Tree Players winning Best Actress in a lead role for Ruth Condomine in *'Blithe Spirit'*.

Of her favourite roles, Angela says she is torn between Portia in *'The Merchant of Venice'* and *'The Cleaner'* in the production of Collaborators!

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SA's own
internet
guide to
Theatre
in and
around
Adelaide



Supporting local theatre productions.
What's On in Drama, Musicals, Comedy
and more

www.theatreguide.com.au

Official Website for the Theatre Assoc of South Australia

About the Author Alan Bennett



Alan Bennett (born 9 May 1934) is an English actor, author, playwright and screenwriter. Over his distinguished entertainment career he has received numerous awards and honours including two BAFTA Awards, four Laurence Olivier Awards, and two Tony Awards. He also earned an Academy Award nomination for his film *The Madness of King George* (1994). In 2005 he received the Society of London Theatre Special Award.

He was born in Leeds and attended Oxford University, where he studied history and performed with the Oxford Revue. He stayed to teach and research medieval history at the university for several years. His collaboration as writer and performer with Dudley Moore, Jonathan Miller and Peter Cook in the satirical revue *Beyond the Fringe* at the 1960 Edinburgh Festival brought him instant fame and later a Special Tony Award. He gave up academia, and turned to writing full-time, his first stage play, *Forty Years On*, being produced in 1968. He also became known for writing dramatic monologues *Talking Heads* which ran in 1988, and 1999 on BBC1 earning a British Academy Television Award.

Bennet gained acclaim with his various plays at the Royal National Theatre. He received his the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Comedy Play for *Single Spies* in 1990. He then made his breakthrough with the play *The Madness of George III* in 1992. For his play he received a nomination for the Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Play. The following year he staged a theatrical production of the BBC series *Talking Heads* in 1992. He continued receiving acclaim for his plays *The Lady in the Van* in 1999, *The History Boys* in 2004, and *The Habit of Art* in 2009. He won his second Tony Award for Best Play for

The History Boys in 2005. The following plays were later adapted into films, *The Madness of King George* (1994), for which he received an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay nomination, *The History Boys* (2005), and *The Lady in the Van* (2015).

He is also known for a wide variety of audio books, including his readings of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Winnie-the-Pooh.

Message from the Chair Rose Vallen




Our first show for 2022, 'Loot' has been and gone. "Laughter filled the theatre as audience clearly enjoyed the witty dialogue and cleverly crafted script, coupled with the delivery of perfect comedy timing, with a touch of slapstick.

A highlight would have to be the departed Mum's corpse dragged around the stage, re-appearing at the most inopportune moments". (Adelaide Theatre Guide ATG, April 12, 2022). That was me by the way, the dead body, and let me tell you being a dead body can be hazardous to your health! Tipped out of coffins, stuffed in cupboards, toes trod on! Where's the respect! But it was fun. Our next show *The Madness of George III* is looking to be fantastic. Rehearsals are well under way and such fun.

The Rep is still trying to get a plan to upgrade the Arts Theatre for equal access to those people who have mobility aids as well as a new disabled toilet. We don't have the money and so far we have been unsuccessful in gaining a grant to help us to at least create a Master Plan for these works (and the work that will be required once we start changing the Theatre). We'll keep you informed, but if you have any great ideas how we can do this please contact me.

Cheers

Rose 

Volunteer Position Vacant

Front of House Manager

Position Description

The Front of House Manager is a part time volunteer position

responsible for the efficient supervision and delivery of customer services at the ARTS theatre for Adelaide Repertory Theatre productions.

A key member of the crew, the Front of House Manager will lead ushers to ensure outstanding customer service outcomes, and the health and safety of audiences and staff in our venue.

The Front of House Manager will be a hands-on leader, managing the Rep's ushers on a weekly roster whilst the show is in production.

Hours are spread over weekdays, evenings and Saturdays, and include the provision of training and procedural documentation.

The Front of House Manager will demonstrate high levels of initiative, be results-oriented, and in consultation with the President, the Front of House Manager, will provide ongoing training and support to Front of House volunteers to ensure the delivery of an exceptional experience to patrons and promote a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for audiences, guests and actors.

The FOH Manager works a 14 hour week, four times per year, including shifts after hours and on Saturdays, in line with the Rep's operational needs, and in consultation with the Rep President.



Robin Lloyd Retiring FOH Manager

Back in late 2019 I found myself wanting to do a bit more with my life...meet new people get out and about! Volunteer work! But where?

I was involved in theatre in my teens and 20's, but never pursued it further, though I have loved being a theatre goer for the last 50 years! Perfect...I would contact Amateur theatre groups and offer my help in anyway. First group was the Adelaide Rep. Little did I know when I walked into Rays office to have a chat about volunteering that I would walk out a half hour later as The Adelaide Rep FOH Manager!

A Christmas Carol was to begin in the coming weeks, so I was to act as the FOH Second in Charge to get my "sea legs". From Opening Night to Closing Night, I was just where I wanted to be! I was thrilled to be meeting and mixing with the Cast and Crew, and had such a wonderful and rewarding time mingling with the Patrons! I was so excited for the 2020 Season to begin! Then....COVID!

But I was able to enjoy every minute of my position as FOH Manager during the 2021 and the start of 2022. It was worth the wait! What a great rewarding way to volunteer!

In closing, I want to thank Ray for taking the chance on me and the whole Adelaide Rep group for always making me feel so included and welcome in their world. Finally I want to thank all my volunteers for their time and love of theatre. They truly made this job so enjoyable and rewarding! I will certainly miss being a part of this special community!



Moore St Parking

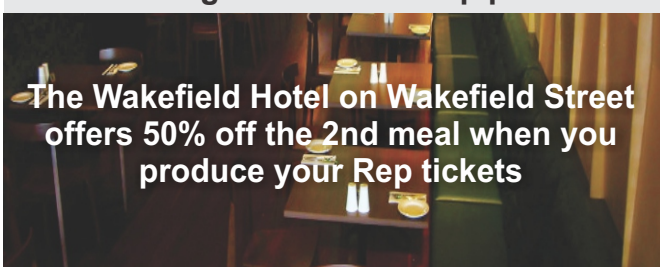
\$8.00

Undercover parking
6pm 'til midnight



Located on Moore St
opposite the Arts Theatre stage door!!

WANT TO EAT BEFORE THE SHOW?
Here is a great offer for Rep patrons



The Wakefield Hotel on Wakefield Street
offers 50% off the 2nd meal when you
produce your Rep tickets



The Adelaide Repertory Theatre Inc.

Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable
Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia

Vice Patron: The Right Honourable
The Lord Mayor of Adelaide, **Sandy Verschoor**

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